



This guide is intended to answer basic questions about the Commercial Vehicle Information Systems and Networks (CVISN) Program. It is primarily intended for state administrators of motor carrier programs related to safety, credentials, fuel tax, and size and

weight regulation. This guide is intended to help these state administrators establish a program to deploy new CVISN capabilities in their state. Table 1-1 details the content of this Introductory Guide to CVISN.

Table 1-1 Content of Introductory Guide to CVISN

Chapter	Content
1 – Introduction	Defines the purpose and scope of this document.
2 – What is CVISN?	Provide basic definitions and other background on CVISN.
3 – What is CVISN Level 1?	
4 – What Benefits are Expected from CVISN?	
5 – What is the Plan for National Deployment of CVISN?	Describes the reasons why states and motor carriers should consider implementing CVISN Level 1 capabilities.
6 – What Deployment Process Should States Follow?	Defines the strategy the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) is using to deploy CVISN capabilities.
7 – How Do States Assure Conformance with the National Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Architecture?	
8 – What Resources are Available to Help States?	
9 – What Should My State Do Next?	Provides information that a state can use to establish a plan for deploying CVISN capabilities.
10 – References	Helps a state identify where it is in the deployment process and recommends next step(s).
A – Acronyms	Points to other resources that may be helpful in deploying CVISN.
	A list of acronyms.

This is one in a series of guides. Section 8 describes the other guides. Please refer to Section 8 if you want to go directly to a specific topic at a lower level of detail than provided herein. The other guides are available from the CVISN web site (<http://www.jhuapl.edu/cvo/>). See Figure 1-1 for a list of the CVISN Guides.

This guide is intended to serve several purposes. It is to provide a first introduction to CVISN that can be read cover-to-cover by a person new to the subject. It is intended to provide context for the rest of the guides. Finally, it is intended as a useful reference for someone who may be familiar with some aspects of CVISN but does not have a clear picture of how all the parts fit together.

This document uses acronyms and terminology that may be new to you. A list of acronyms is provided in Appendix A. Please refer to the *CVISN Glossary* [JHU/APL, POR-96-6997, V1.0 1998] for definitions of terms.

This guide assumes that you are already somewhat familiar with Commercial Vehicle Operations (CVO)

governmental functions such as safety regulation, the International Registration Plan (IRP), the International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA), and weight enforcement. However, there will be many readers who will not be, such as specialists in just one aspect of CVO or information system developers. The technical application guides provide some additional background on this material and also provide further references. The *Rand McNally Motor Carrier's Road Atlas*, updated annually, provides a good introduction to the state and federal regulations applicable to motor carriers. Someone in your state (and hopefully on your CVISN team) will be an expert in each of these areas and can help you to understand aspects new to you and provide good background material. Various state agency associations and trade associations are also good sources of information.

Some of you may be very familiar with CVO, but not familiar at all with information systems technology. The ITS/CVO training courses and the associated reference material are specifically set up to address this need. Please refer to Chapter 8 for more details on these courses.

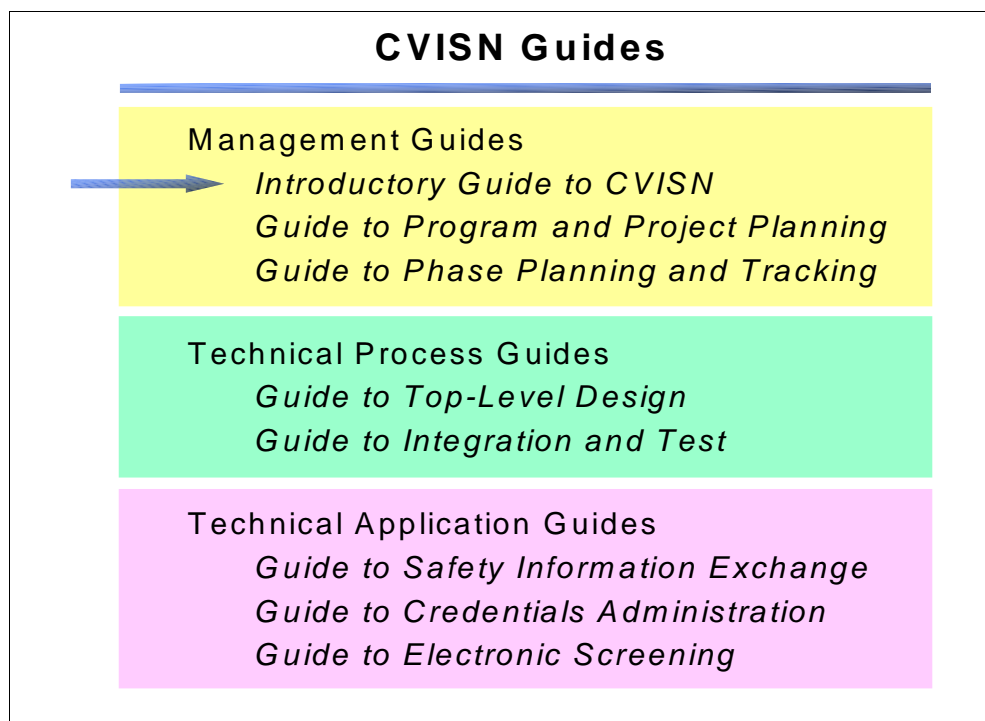


Figure 1-1 CVISN Guides